

Fig. 1

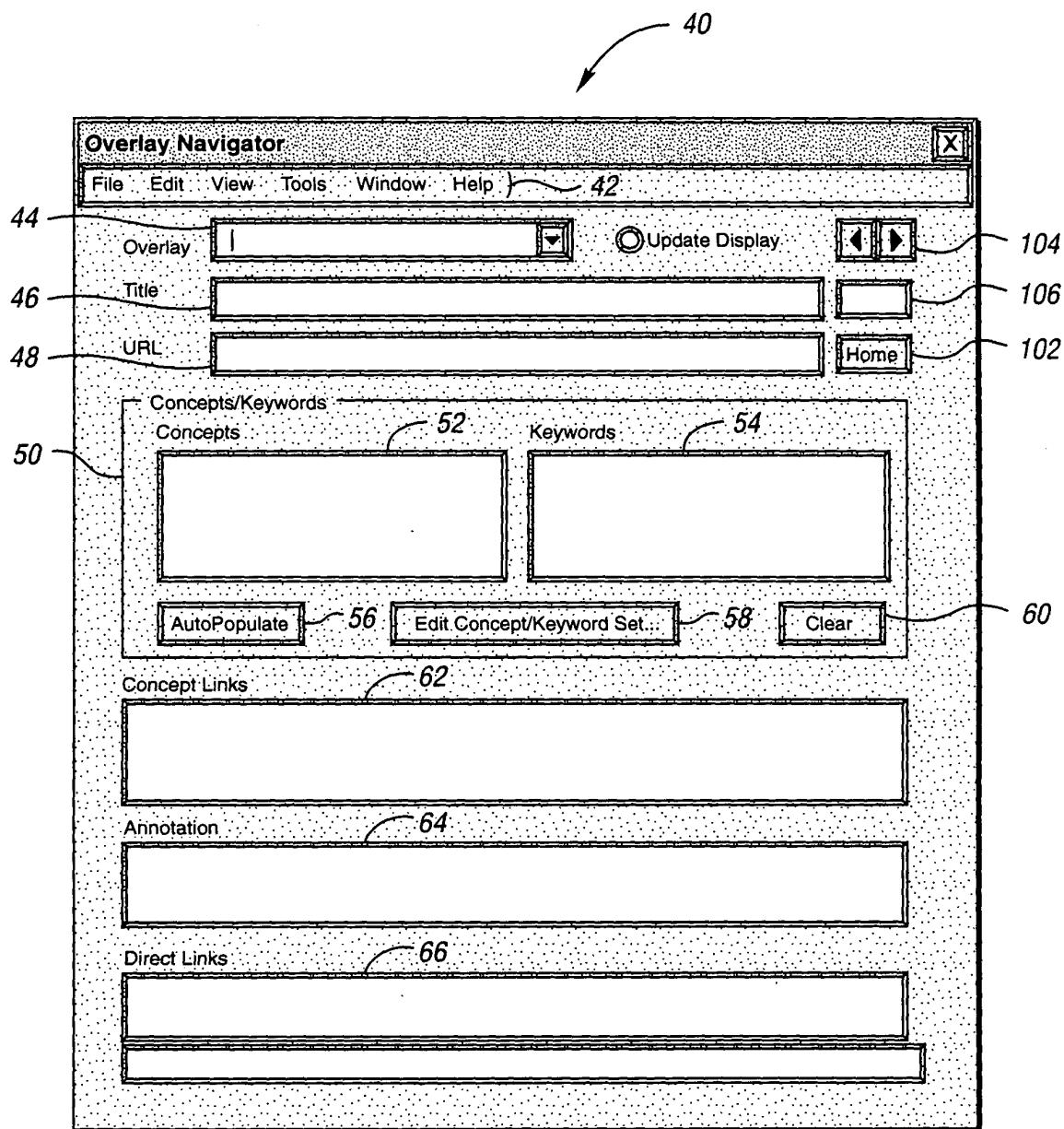


Fig. 2

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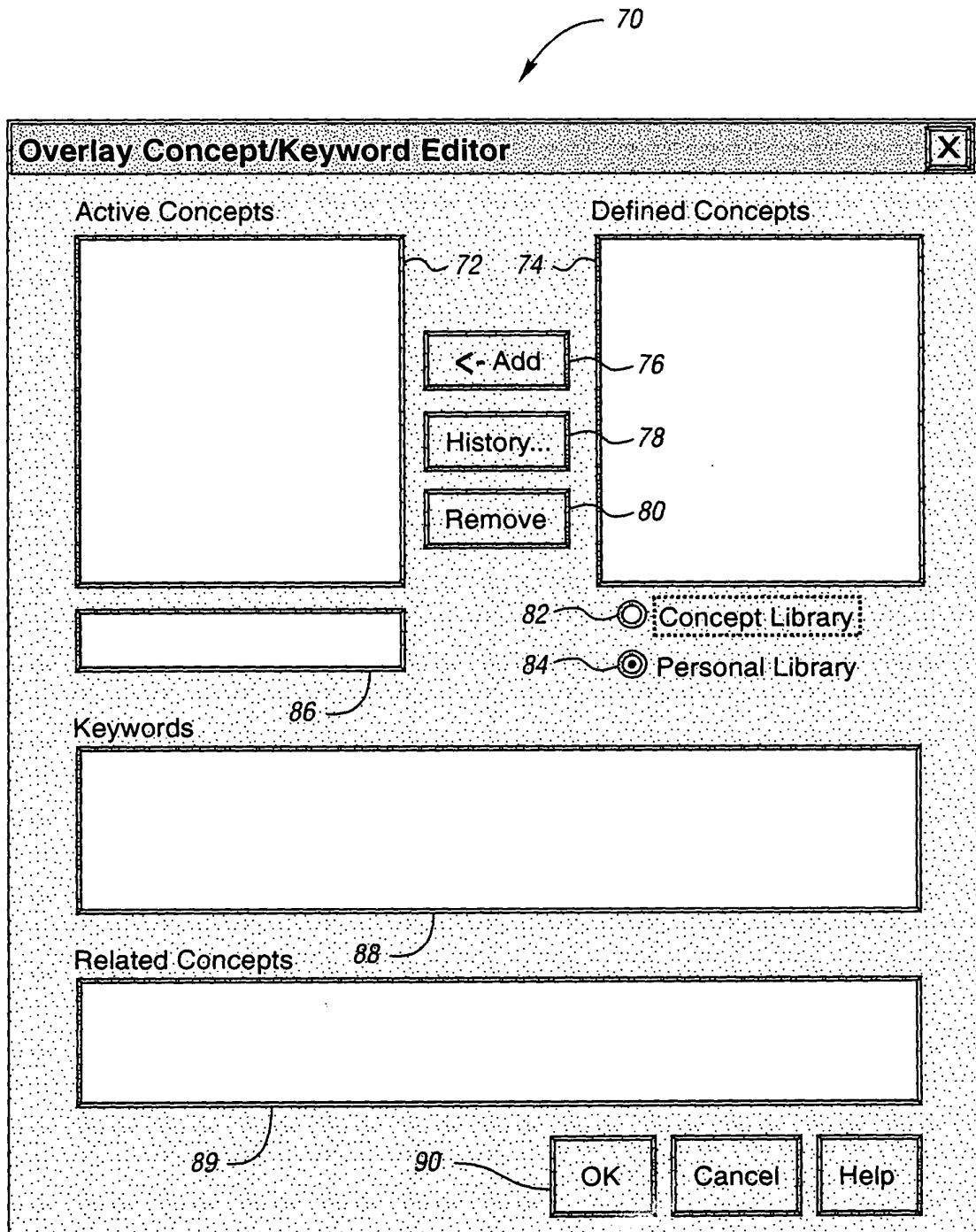


Fig. 3

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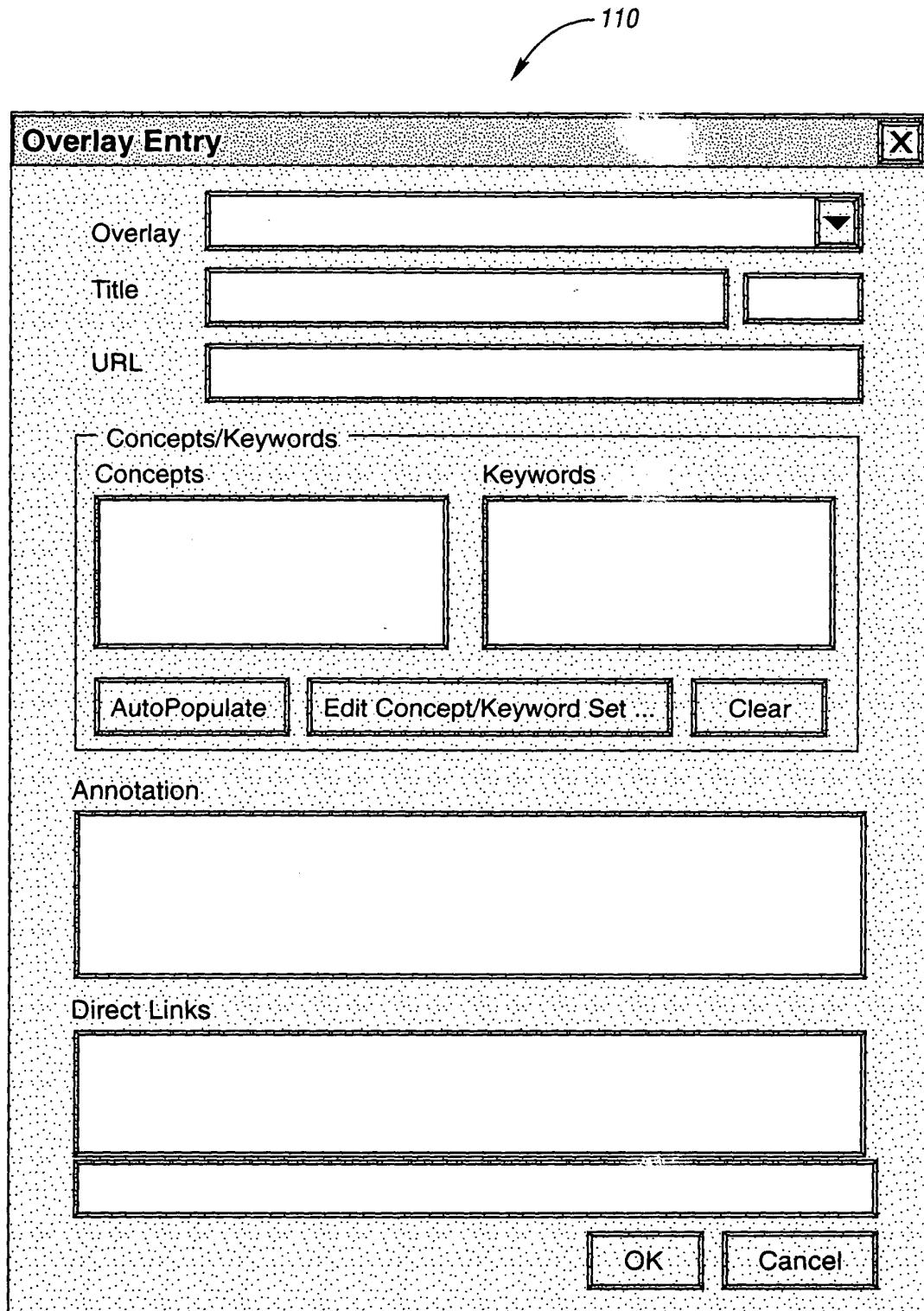
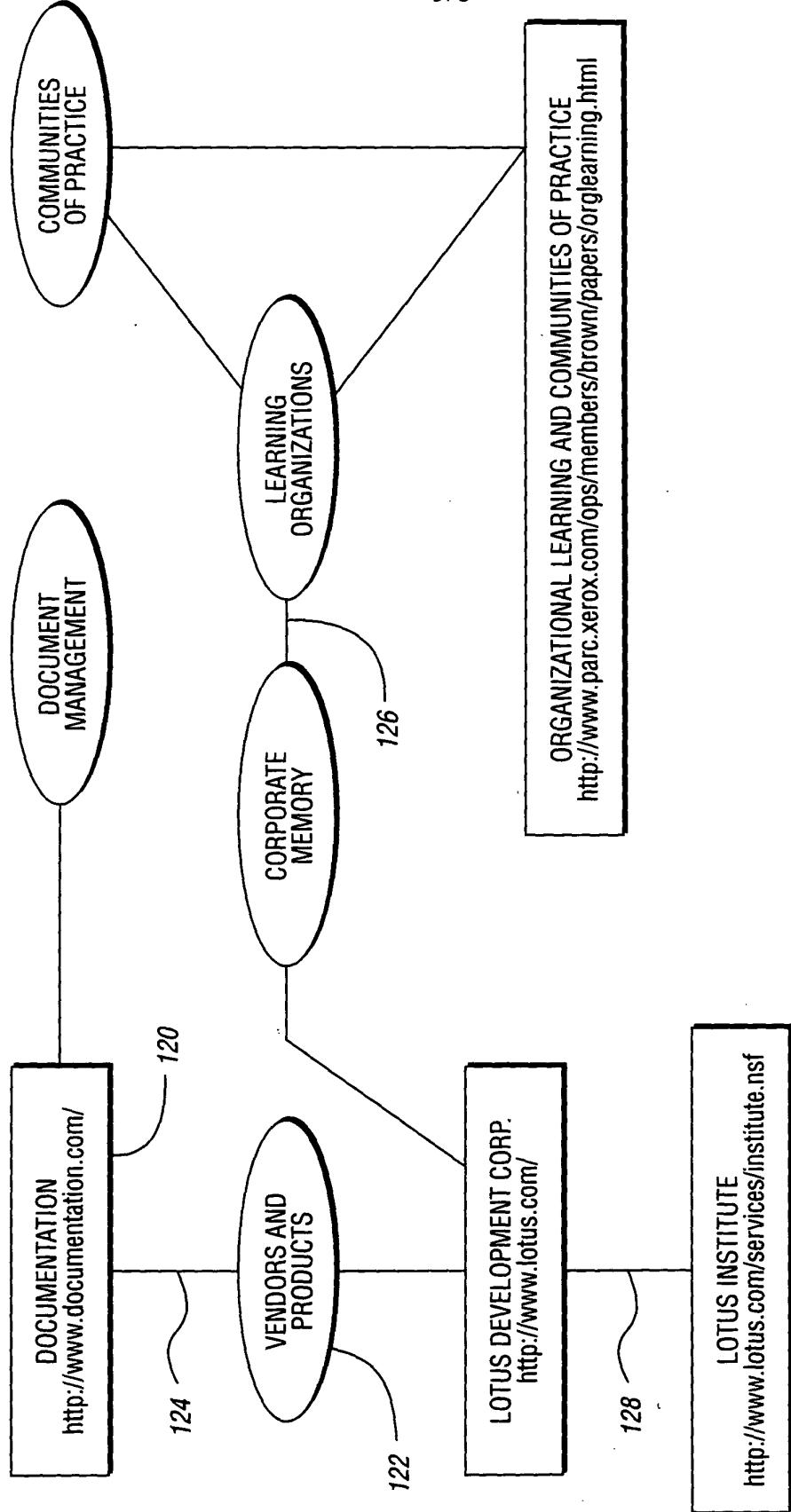


Fig. 4



Dig. 5

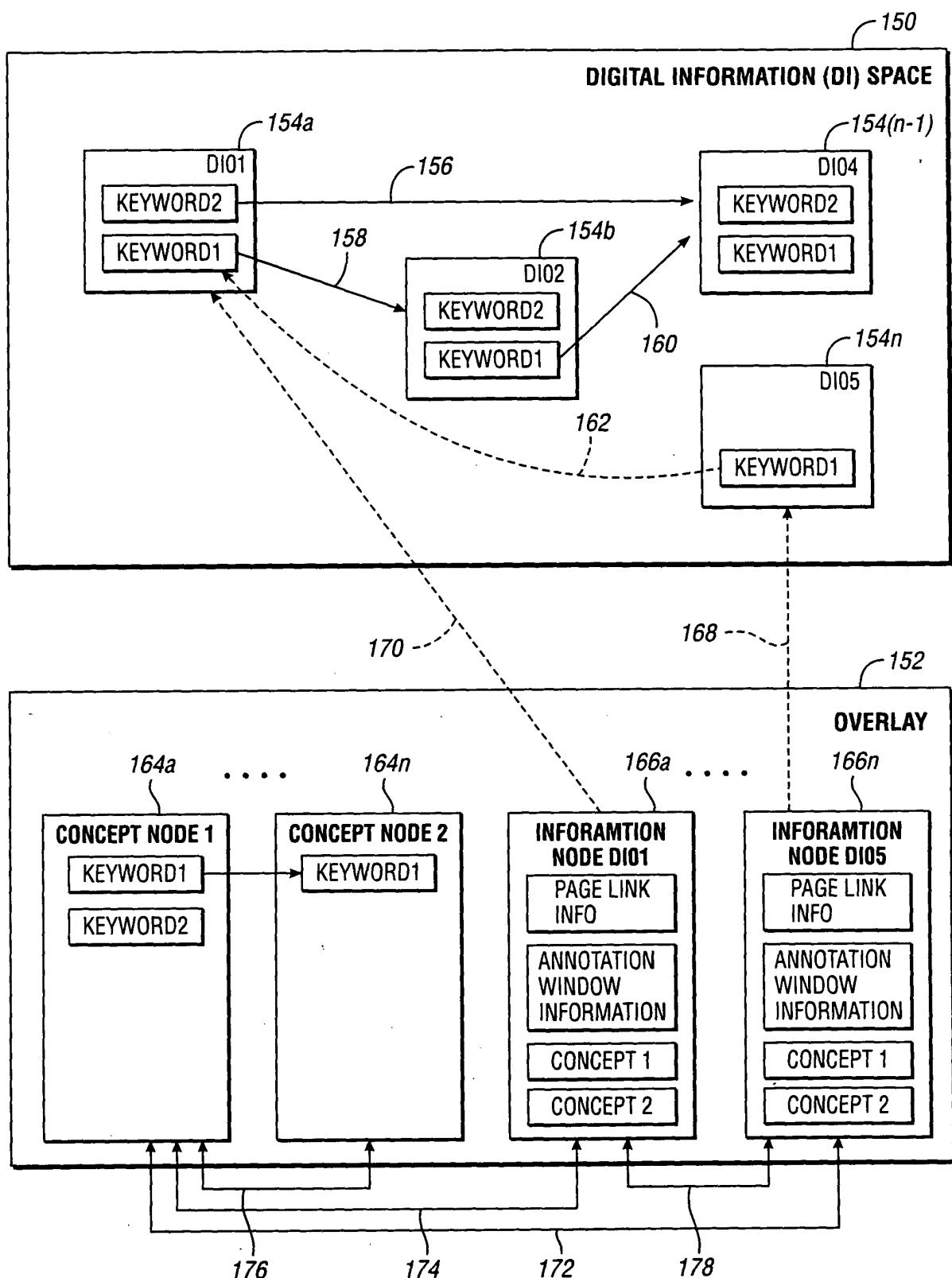
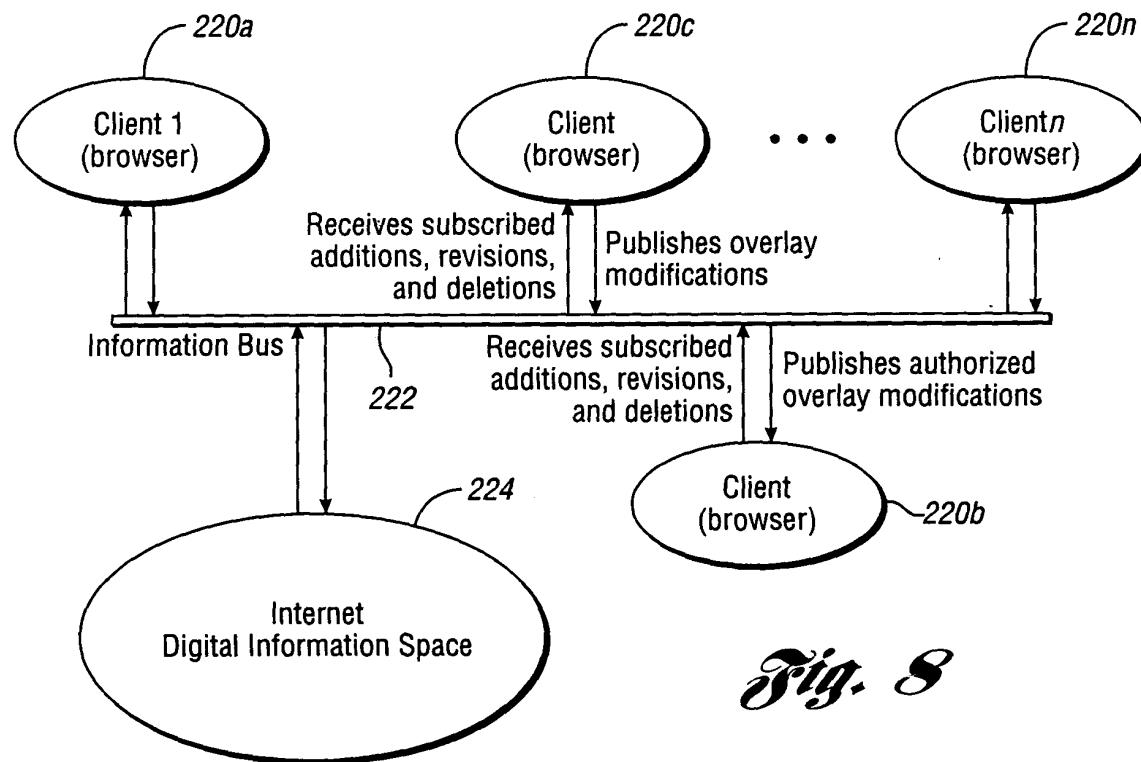
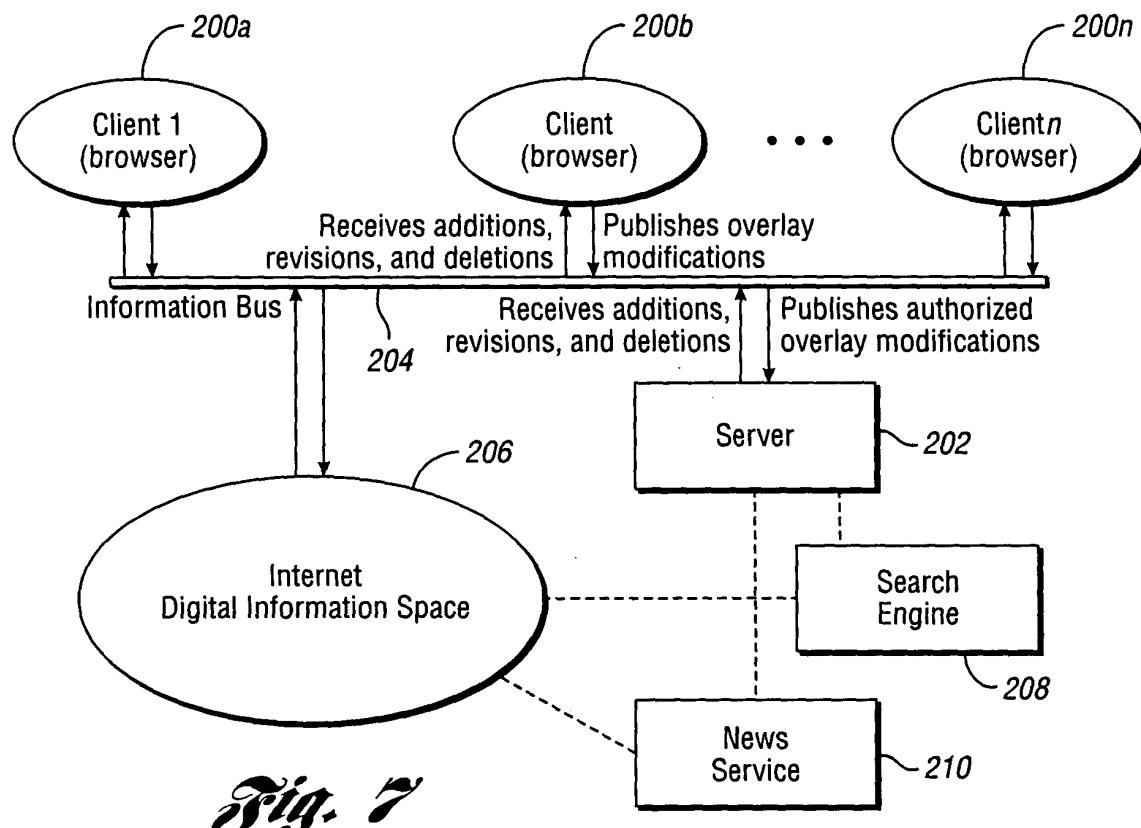


Fig. 6

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File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

http://et.uswest.com:9199/overlays - Microsoft Internet Explorer

Overlays: An Introduction

Back in 1945, Vanavar Bush described machine he called a memex. The memex (which was never built) was a desk-sized machine designed to help a scientist manage and interlink a constantly growing corpus of knowledge. The paper in which the memex was described is a classic work, often cited as an early prototype of the World Wide Web (WWW).

There's just one problem... you still cannot, to this day, do what Bush was describing with the WWW. At least not with the browsers currently available. Bush's point was not that we need access to more information, or needed faster access to information, it was that we need tools that will allow us to make sense of a corpus of scientific and technical knowledge that is growing at an ever increasing pace. A tool that enables *personal knowledge management*.

Overlays are my solution to the problem Bush proposed. Overlays, implemented at the browser level, would allow you to do everything Bush described in his article. In addition, they'll let you do something else. *they allow you to see new information in relation to existing information that you've already classified as valuable.*

Think of it as an entirely new method of navigation, augmenting what the author has provided.

An author typically sticks hyperlinks into a document to show how other documents fit into the author's mental model of a particular subject. The reader is compelled to either (a) follow the author's links, or (b) remember that they've already seen some relevant information and go hunting for it in their bookmarks. But what if that remembering and hunting process could be automated?

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For example, if I opened a WWW page by someone with the words knowledge management in the name, the idea of the overlay would be to create, automatically, a reader-defined link that would allow the user to instantly be reminded of, and access, all relevant (KM and CO) Knowledge management at Quest.

Organizational Learning and COPs

Knowledge management at Quest

Organizational Learning

Organizational Learning and COPs (Brown and Duguid)

SQL Home Page

On this page, as you may have guessed, the words that look like they were marked with a mouse onto the link, and note the pop-up menus that appear. Menu selections may bring up WWW sites, or bring up selected concepts (in this case, Organizational Learning)

The manner in which an overlay link is defined is easily configurable to accommodate visual impairment, personal preferences, and to avoid confusion between author and reader defined links.